Sunol Yard Long Term Improvements – Alameda Creek Watershed Center Project
Community Meeting

Monday, February 8, 2016
Sunol Yard Conference Room, 505 Paloma Way, Sunol

Minutes

Attendees:
Solveig Shearer
Lalitha Vish
Ann Dowling
Jim O’Laughlin
Joanna Letz
Barry Kaminsky
Dan Reasor
Maryanne Canapero
Mary Marshall
Debi Foland
Marian Foland
Bob Foster
Rosemary Chang
Ted Buttner
Diane Tiessen
Irv Tiessen

SF Department of Public Works:
Paul De Freitas
Nick Ancel

SFPUC:
Tim Ramirez
Carla Schultheis
Neal Fujita
Amy Dawson

SF Bay Bird Observatory:
Bill Rose
Dolores Bengston

The Acorn Group:
Amy Evans -ALCO RCD

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Tim Ramirez, SFPUC
   a. Sunol Golf Course.
      i. Came into SFPUC possession on January 29.
      ii. There are no identified long term uses of the Sunol Golf Course at this time.
      iii. In the short term, SFPUC will store equipment and offices there from the Sunol Yard during construction.
      iv. Our watershed keepers are patrolling the grounds. We are working to make it secure and safe.
      v. The SFPUC will share potential plans for the long term use with the Sunol Community
      vi. All lands owned by the SFPUC in this watershed are subject to our Alameda Watershed Management Plan.

II. Project Overview and Schedule – Bryan Dessaure, SFPUC
   a. The project is almost complete with Design.
   b. The Phase III Civic Design review meeting with the SF Arts Commissions is this afternoon.
   c. Estimated Schedule:
      i. Advertise the project in March 2016
      ii. Award the contract in June 2016, with Notice to proceed to the contractor in August 2016.
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iii. Construction on the Yard will begin first, since there will be 9 months of archaeological work that needs to be done at the watershed center prior to the start of construction work at the site.
iv. Construction is anticipated to be complete in August 2018.
v. During construction, public access to the Water Temple will be closed.
vi. The farmers at the Ag Park will have continued access.
vii. We will work with them on their school tours as well.
viii. Site preparation for the Temporary Yard at the Sunol Golf Course area and Archaeological investigation work at the Watershed Center area will start this month.

III. Comments
   a. Bill Rose relayed concern about the effects of construction on the Great Blue Heron Rookery on Alameda Creek nearby.
   b. Nesting birds become easily agitated by people (not vehicles) and could abandon or ruin their nests.
   c. Nesting period is February to July.
   d. Bryan Dessaure will gather information from Mr. Rose to relay to the project team.
   e. Tim Ramirez reiterated that there will be a team of monitors that ensures environmental compliance during construction.

IV. Architectural Design Overview - SF DPW, Dept. of Building Design and Construction [Please find presentation posted on our website]
   a. Building – Paul De Freitas
   b. Landscaping - Nick Ancel

V. Interpretive Design – Jenny Rigby, The Acorn Group [Please find presentation posted on our website]

VI. Next Steps
   a. The SFPUC will be creating a native plant nursery nearby to grow the plants for the watershed center and Sunol Yard from seed.
   b. We will be asking for help if anyone is able to assist with this extensive effort.